

REMARKS

In an office dated January 20, 2004, the examiner rejected claims 1, 4-8 and 11-20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Applicants have canceled claims 1, 4-8 and 11-20 and added new claims 21-30. No new matter was added.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be examined in view of the amendment to the claims.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 29, 2004

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